

This includes the dropping of warning pamphlets in advance of Israeli missions in civilian areas.

It also includes the use of advanced weaponry that targets a military objective without harming civilians or civilian infrastructure.

But we must be honest. When engaged in armed conflict it is difficult to ensure the safety of civilians.

In fact, Hezbollah and Hamas purposefully operate in populated areas, often putting civilians between heavily armed terrorists and the Israeli military.

The effects of this type of warfare is also painful to Israel.

As Golda Meir so poignantly stated, "When peace comes we will perhaps in time be able to forgive Arabs for killing our sons, but it will be harder for us to forgive them for having forced us to kill their sons."

As dire as events on the ground appear, there is room for U.S. leadership. The question now is what form that leadership should take.

The administration must swiftly do what it can to create conditions in the region that will open the doors to diplomacy.

This Congress expects the President to work toward achieving this goal. Once more favorable conditions are created, it should be the administration's priority to dispatch our senior diplomatic leaders, led by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to the region as soon as possible.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 921, which, among other things, condemns the recent attacks against the State of Israel, expresses the House of Representatives' condolences to all families of innocent victims of recent violence, and holds terrorists and their state-sponsors accountable for such attacks.

On June 25, 2006, the terrorist group Hezbollah disrupted peaceful relations between Israel and Lebanon by crossing Israel's internationally recognized borders and abducting two Israeli soldiers. Let me say upfront that I know from meeting with Lebanese Prime Minister Fuad Siniora that the Lebanese government is not able to control Hezbollah. However, this incursion provoked Israel to take action to retrieve its two nationals, a response U.S. citizens would fully expect of their own government were it in the same situation. Unfortunately, escalating violence has led to the death of innocent civilians in both Israel and Lebanon.

While pundits have voiced concerns over how "measured" Israel's response was in this case, we must remember that this situation just scratches the surface of a deeply rooted conflict between Israel and a number of terrorist groups such as Hezbollah, Hamas, etc. Since Israel withdrew from Southern Lebanon

back in 2000, Hezbollah has terrorized and ravaged Israel's northern border.

Many have also called for a cease-fire. Rest assured, I welcome the cessation of all hostility, but am concerned about whether a conventional "cease-fire" is appropriate when dealing with a terrorist group that openly fires upon civilian populations. I believe that Israel, on the other hand, exercised due diligence in specifically targeting Hezbollah. However, even though many civilians have died in Lebanon, we must remember this task is extremely difficult to execute because Hezbollah hides among Lebanon's civilian population. Hezbollah is cleverly aware that this makes it extremely difficult for Israel to target it. Moreover, at the bitter cost of innocent Lebanese lives, it rejoices at the public torment that Israel receives.

There is no easy solution to this situation. However, our primary concern at this point ought to be to evacuate all U.S. citizens who wish to leave Lebanon as quickly and safely as possible. I have been personally working with a number of my constituents who have family in Lebanon to ensure their safe return back home. I ask the American people to stand in solidarity with all the families who have lost loved ones in this conflict.

Madam Speaker, in closing it is truly sad that in this day and age a terrorist group like Hezbollah does not hesitate to point their weapons at innocent civilians. We must continue to support the return of Israel's kidnapped soldiers and push for a cessation of all hostility in any way that we can. I urge an aye vote on H. Res. 921.

CONDEMNING THE RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and I rise in support of our friend and ally, Israel, during this critical period.

September 11th was a defining moment for our country in many ways. In particular, it forced Americans to confront a new reality—that terrorists could cause massive destruction on our soil and that we are all at risk. Faced with this new reality, we resolved to fight—to go to Afghanistan with the aim of destroying al-Qaeda and removing the government that sheltered it.

Israelis have been living with this reality for decades. Well-armed, well-financed and sophisticated terrorist organizations—backed by Syria and Iran—surround her. Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Hezbollah have carried out thousands of attacks on Israeli soil. They have strapped bombs to teenagers and sent them on suicide missions targeting buses filled with innocent women and children. They have launched rockets at Israeli homes and stores. And, they have murdered and kidnapped Israeli soldiers. They will stop at nothing to accomplish their one common goal: the destruction of Israel.

Just as America does, Israel has a right to defend herself. Israel has a right to better se-

cure its borders, its security and its future. A secure Israel can not exist with Hezbollah controlling the territory directly north of the country. A secure Israel can not exist with thousands of katyusha rockets aimed at Haifa, Tiberius and other population centers in the North. A secure Israel can not exist with Hamas in control of the Palestinian territories.

Israel is at war with these terrorist entities and we must stand by her. We have a moral obligation to do so—to stand on the side of democracy and freedom versus terror and radicalism. We must also do so because left unchecked, these terrorist organizations will continue to destabilize the region and use it as a base to foster global instability and undermine our national security.

As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, I will never forget what can result when the world fails to confront evil and terror. Passage of this resolution with strong bipartisan support will send an unequivocal message to the world—Hezbollah and Hamas are responsible for this violence, Israel has a right to defend itself, and the United States will stand with Israel as it confronts the evil and terror of Hezbollah and Hamas. I am confident that Israel will prevail in this fight. And, it is my hope that their strong actions against terror will ultimately lead to the peace and security that so many in the region desperately seek.

SCHOMBURG CENTER HOSTS A SUMMIT FOR HIP-HOP ACTIVISM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD an article from the Volume 6 Edition of *Africana Heritage* magazine which highlights an event hosted by Dr. Cornel West celebrating the music genre of Hip-Hop. This panel based event, held on Monday, April 24th, 2006, was titled "A Hip-Hop Revolution?" and it featured expert panelists from the academia, entertainment, and publishing spheres who gathered to address the issue of whether Hip-Hop music had the capability to serve as a tool for revolution.

This event formed part of a four-program series, the "Leadership Forum Series: Higher Pursuits" taking place at the Schomburg Museum in Harlem, New York. This particular event that focused on the potential of Hip-Hop to serve as an instrument for social movement shed some light on contemporary perspectives on the evolution of Hip-Hop from a subgroup of African American music born to the New York borough of the Bronx, to one of the most popular genres of music around the world.

To some panelists, the answer to this question was positive. Writer Greg Tate held that Hip-Hop was just a manifestation of black people's way to transform their world. To him, Hip-Hop embodied a culture that produced leaders and prophets "to get us through the next plateau of our struggles." On the other hand, Dr. Imani Perry, associate professor at Rutgers Law School, submitted that "Hip-Hop doesn't exist as a viable social movement, but its music generates courage."

Whatever the case may be, facilitator Dr. West concluded and all the panelists agreed that Hip-Hop may perhaps offer the "sound-track" for a movement. However, one should